

Q U E R I E S

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Humbly proposed, and submitted to candid Investigation.

AS the Dispute between John Whitehead, and the Preachers in connection with that late singular man John Wesley, respecting "writing his Life;" is no longer a private Matter, the following Queries are drawn up for the Defence of the Friends to the Conference, and to rightly inform those who have been led astray.

By a LOVER of TRUTH, JUSTICE, PEACE, and LOVE.

1. *When the Preachers in London, (stationed there by J. Wesley, and the Conference,) and others, solicited J. Whitehead to write the Life of J. Wesley, was it not then understood by J. W. that the Book should belong to the Book-Room?*
2. *When the Manuscript Papers, &c. of J. W. were put into the hands of J. W. by Thomas Coke, James Creighton, James Rogers, and Henry Moore, was it not for the special purpose of writing the Life of J. W. for the Book-Room?*
3. *If J. W. changed his mind afterwards, and was just in so doing, ought he not to have returned the papers back to those from whom he received them?*
4. *If J. W. had any other Design, at the time when he received these Manuscripts of J. W. but to write the Life for the Book-Room, Did he gain them surreptitiously, or by mistake?*
5. *If J. W. could not write an impartial Life of J. W. without his Manuscript Papers, does not the ground of Copy-Right rest in those Papers? And does not the Copy-Right rest in the Proprietor, or Proprietors of these Papers?*
6. *If J. W. intended to benefit T. C. J. W. and H. M. equally by bequeathing to them his Manuscripts, does J. W. do justly in gaining the possession, and keeping the whole to himself?*
7. *What obligations are T. C. and H. Moore under to J. W. that they must give up their Right (from themselves and families) in these Manuscripts, &c. to J. W. for the benefit of himself, and family?*
8. *Had John Horton, George Wolff, and William Marriott a right to dispose of, (privately, or publicly) the Life of J. W. to J. W. Or had they a Right to command the Itinerant Preachers to sell the said J. Whitehead's Life of J. W. Or had they a Right to prohibit the Conference from publishing a Life of J. W. for the benefit of their Friends and the Societies, under their care?*
9. *If J. H. G. W. and W. M. knew at the time when these Papers were delivered into the hands of J. W. that he designed to appropriate the Copy-Right of the intended Life to his own emolument, did they do justice to their office as Executors in not informing T. C. and H. M. whom they knew granted them to J. W. for the special purpose of writing the intended Life for the Book-Room?*
10. *If J. H. G. W. and W. M. did not know at that time, but that J. W. was to write the Life for the Book-Room, did they act as "Honest Men, and as Christians," in defending J. W. in retaining the said Manuscripts, and refusing to comply with the manifest design for which he received them?*
11. *Does a Committee of "Independent Gentlemen," stepping forth and taking J. W. under their protection, wipe away blame from him? Or does it not rather involve both them and him in a greater degree of blame and censure, not to say of guilt?*

The Proposer of these Queries, now calls for the attention of the Reader to the grand Cardinal Point in dispute, which is—Not who has, or who has not a right to publish a Life of J. Wesley?—But whether J. Whitehead AS AN INDIVIDUAL, UPON THE AUTHORITY OF HIS OWN SINGLE JUDGMENT, shall fix unalterably, the standard of J. Wesley's History; or the Conference, (so called) of Methodist Preachers?—Whether a History from the single judgment of an Individual, or the united judgments of many, will have the greatest weight with Publick?

N. B. The Author of these Queries is informed that an Answer is preparing, and will be speedily published, to a late curious Pamphlet, intitled, "A True Narrative," &c. &c.

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